

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The specification as amended below with replacement paragraphs shows added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~.

[0048] Figure 8 shows one of many possible hardware configurations that may be used to implement embodiments of the present invention. Generally, information such public records mentioned above may be transmitted from servers 170 of a data provider such as Thomson Analytics, over a network 172, to servers 174 implementing aspects of the invention mentioned above. The servers-~~172~~ 170 and 174 may include one or more preferably commercial databases 176. The information needed by servers-~~172~~ 170 may be provided by servers 174 either wholesale where it is then searched at servers-~~172~~ 170, or it may be provided be maintained and searched at servers-~~172~~ 170 as needed. Searches using aspects of the present invention may be conducted by a user using a workstation 178, which may include a processing unit 180, a display 182, and input devices 184. The workstation 178 may function as a client accessing the servers 174 through the network 172, for example using HTTP or other IP-based protocols. Not shown are other computers, for example SEC servers or servers of trading firms that may provide the SEC and account holder information discussed above. Batch exchanges of data, and updates to the trading firms over the network 172 (based on search results) may also be conducted.